

CLAIMS

1. An imaging apparatus, comprising:

5 a control setting section for setting a frame mode of an imaging section or a photographing parameter of the imaging section,

10 an automatic switch setting section in which setting contents to be automatically switched in the control setting section and a set time for implementing the contents are set, and

15 a system control section which detects an operation of an operation switch and automatically switches the setting contents of the control setting section according to a setting of the automatic switch setting section.

2. The imaging apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the system control section controls the control setting section in such a manner as to detect an operation of the operation switch and switch at least one of the frame mode and the 20 photographing parameter according to the setting of the automatic switch setting section.

3. The imaging apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the system control section controls the control setting section 25 in such a manner as to detect an operation of the operation switch and switch at least one of the frame mode and the photographing parameter according to the setting of the automatic switch setting section, detects that the operation switch is operated again in a set time of a current setting, 30 and forcibly performs automatic switching to subsequent setting contents of the automatic switch setting section.

4. The imaging apparatus according to claim 2 or 3, wherein the system control section detects an operation of the operation

switch and automatically switches the frame mode and the photographing parameter in series in a predetermined order.

5. The imaging apparatus according to claim 2 or 3, wherein  
the system control section detects an operation of the operation  
switch and automatically switches the frame mode and the  
photographing parameter in parallel in a predetermined order  
according to setting contents of the automatic switch setting  
section.

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6. The imaging apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the  
system control section controls the control setting section  
in such a manner as to detect an operation of the operation  
switch and switch at least one of the frame mode and the  
photographing parameter according to the setting of the  
automatic switch setting section, detects that the operation  
switch is operated again in a set time of a current setting,  
and does not terminate current setting contents in a set time  
of the automatic switch setting section but automatically  
20 extends the set time.

7. The imaging apparatus according to claim 1, further  
comprising a display section for displaying a state of a current  
frame mode or photographing parameter.

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8. The imaging apparatus according to claim 3 or 6, further  
comprising a memory section for storing history of corrections  
made to a set time when the operation switch is operated again.

30 9. The imaging apparatus according to claim 3 or 6, further  
comprising a memory section for storing history of corrections  
made to a set time when the operation switch is operated again,  
wherein the system control section can replace the set time  
of the automatic switch setting section with another according  
35 to a record of the memory section.

10. The imaging apparatus according to claim 3 or 6, further comprising

5 a memory section for storing history of corrections made to a set time when the operation switch is operated again, and

a recording/reproducing section which records and reproduces an imaging signal,

10 wherein the system control section can replace the set time of the automatic switch setting section with another according to a record of the memory section, and history information of the memory section is recorded with the imaging signal by the recording/reproducing section.

15 11. An imaging apparatus, comprising:

a control setting section for setting a frame mode of an imaging section or a photographing parameter of the imaging section,

20 an automatic switch setting section in which setting contents to be automatically switched in the control setting section and a set time for implementing the contents are set,

a system control section for automatically switching the setting contents of the control setting section according to a setting of the automatic switch setting section, and

25 an imaging signal state decision section for deciding an image state of an imaging signal system outputted from the imaging section,

30 wherein the system control section can detect a change point of the image state according to a decision signal of the imaging signal state decision section and automatically switch the setting contents of the control setting section to another state designated by setting contents of the automatic switch setting.

12. The imaging apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the imaging signal state decision section decides a motion picture/still picture according to the image state of the imaging signal system, and

5       the system control section detects that a decision signal of the imaging signal state decision section changes from a still picture to a motion picture, and automatically switches the setting contents of the control setting section such that a dynamic resolution of the contents is higher than that of  
10      the setting contents of the automatic setting section.

13. The imaging apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the imaging signal state decision section decides an amount of noise and a frequency characteristic of an imaging signal of  
15      the imaging signal system, and

      the system control section automatically switches the setting contents of the control setting section, according to the decision signal of the imaging signal state decision section, more suitably for a state of the imaging signal than  
20      the setting contents of the automatic setting section.